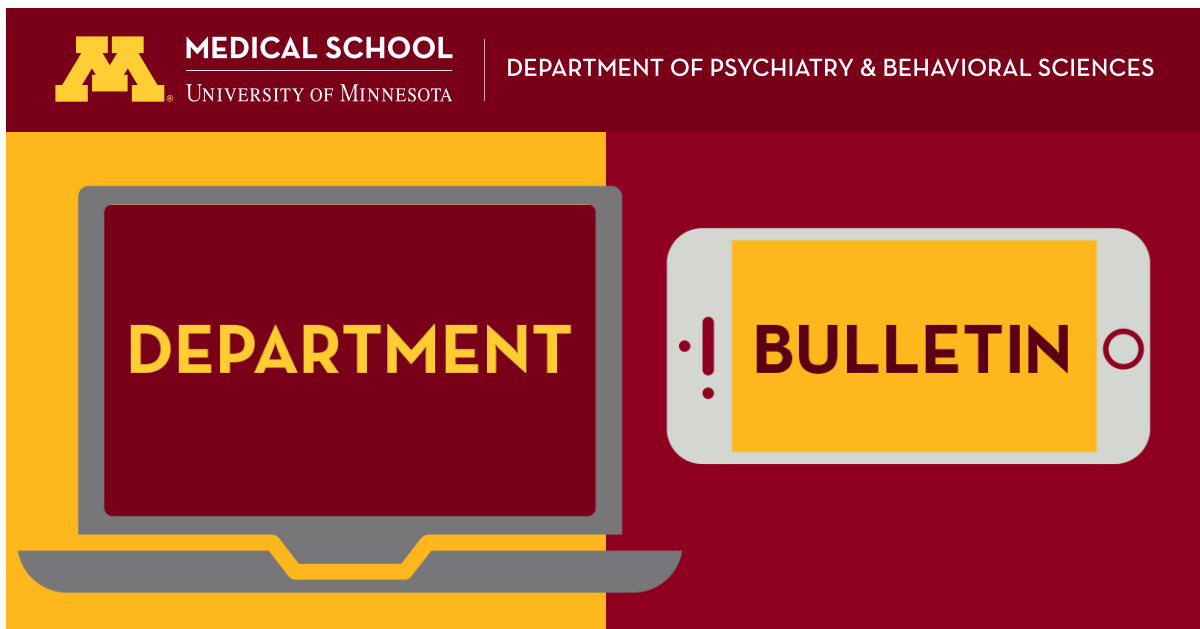


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To the department,

I am very excited– and also a bit sad–to announce that **Suma Jacob MD, PhD** will be leaving our department on April 30 to become the Director of the Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at UCLA! This is one of the premier programs in child and adolescent psychiatry in the world, and Suma will oversee their large portfolio of integrated research, teaching, and clinical care activities. UCLA is familiar territory for Suma, as she did her internship and residency training there (though she tells me the real estate prices have gone up since then!).

I am very proud of– and grateful for– Suma's time in our department over the past 12 years. She made countless contributions at the individual level, serving as a trusted mentor to many early-career child psychiatrists and researchers, but she also left an indelible mark that extends beyond our department into our medical school and community. As an example, she was selected by a panel of senior experts from outside of our department to be

the first recipient of our new Segal Family Endowed Professorship. She was also chosen to be an Associate Director for the Medical Student Training Program for MD/PhD medical students. She served as the Chief Medical and Science Officer for a large non-profit community mental health organization focused on the needs of people with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) and has played a key role in the national SPARK research initiative, creating a large on-line community of participatory research in ASD. In addition, Suma is known for voicing important DEI concerns in national professional forums. On top of this, Suma has led clinical trials and biomarker/genetics studies on autism, while also carrying out research in OCD, tic disorders, anxiety, and ADHD.

Suma's dedication, passion, and expertise have not only enriched our academic community but has inspired countless students and colleagues, one being faculty member and long time colleague, Katie Cullen, who expressed these words of gratitude. "We are all so incredibly grateful that Dr. Suma Jacob spent twelve years of her illustrious career here with us. While advancing the field more broadly, her highly collaborative, world-class research program, her clinical care and teaching have provided inspiration and a training infrastructure for so many trainees right here in Minnesota. I have had countless of these young stars tell me how critical Suma's inspiration and mentorship was to their career trajectories. While Suma's leadership in efforts focused on diversity, equity and inclusion has impacted national conversations, she has also contributed to real change in these areas, right here in our own community. We feel lucky for the time that Suma spent with us, and she will be greatly missed."

While we are sad to see Suma go, we are also excited for the opportunities that lie ahead for her and for how well she will represent the work we do here in Minnesota to her new department. Her talents and abilities will continue to make a positive impact at the national level, and we know how lucky UCLA is to have her.

Please join me in thanking Suma and congratulating her on her new position. A kudoboard will be available in a later bulletin for your messages.

Warmly,

Sophia